celebration directly from Saudi Arabia at the time of Haj during the first week of August, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): There is no such proposal with All India Radio and Doordarshan to broadcast/telecast Haj celebrations directly from Saudi Arabia. However, Doordarshan would make efforts to record the satellite feed available from Saudi Arabian Television and telecast the programme based on the feed as in the past.

Dead Accounts in Nationalised Banks

220. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of dead accounts in the nationalised banks of the country during the last three years;

(b) what is the total amount of deposits of these accounts during the same period; and

(c) the manner in which such money has been utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that the total number of unclaimed deposits accounts, as defined in section 26 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, in the nationalised banks and total amount in these accounts as at the end of last three years are as under:—

(Rs. in lakh)

As on	No. of Accounts	Amount
31-12-1983	22,69,235	1924·83
31-12-1984	26,57,086	2225·15
31-12-1985	31,55,270	2708·07

(c) These unclaimed deposits form part of a bank's overall funds and is not invested separately.

Half-Yearly Interest to Bank Account

221. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the guidelines of the R.B.I. interest has to be added to the accounts of account holders of banks every six months;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these guidelines or directives of the R.B.I. are not being followed by the State Bank of India and its branches and that interest is added in these banks only once a year; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take against the violation of the directives of the R.B.I. in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) According to directives of Reserve Bank of India all the Scheduled Commercial Banks are permitted to pay interest on savings and fixed deposit accounts at quaterly or longer rests. The interest on saving bank account is calculated on the minimum balance existing between 10th to the end month. The State Bank of India credits interest on savings interest once a year, as at the end of September, but the actual calculations are on a monthly basis so that the depositors do not suffer any loss.

(c) Does not arise.

Reduction in Prices After the Budget

222. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of any items of common consumption have gone down as a result of the reliefs